

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A tactical defense device, comprising:  
a dispenser having a tubular body having a first end defining a forward portion and an opposite second end, the tubular body adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge;  
a nozzle plate having a discharge orifice supported within the forward portion; and  
a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to the second end of the dispenser and an opposite second end, the connector coupling housing a switch mechanism.
2. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the forward portion of the dispenser is enlarged.
3. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first and second ends of the dispenser define annular threads.
4. The device in accordance with claim 1 including an annular retainer adapted for connection to the first end of the dispenser.
5. The device in accordance with claim 4 wherein the annular retainer includes an interior thread.
6. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the dispenser includes a slidingly insertable sleeve for holding a pressurized spray cartridge.
7. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the dispenser has an annular cover sleeve formed thereon.
8. The device in accordance with claim 7 wherein the annular cover sleeve is formed of a material suitable to enhance gripping of the dispenser, such as foam.

9. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the discharge orifice of the nozzle plate is in axial alignment with a discharge nozzle of an inserted pressurized spray cartridge.

10. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein an outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a light-reflective material.

11. The device in accordance with claim 10 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a silver color.

12. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a non-reflective material.

13. The device in accordance with claim 12 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a dark, buff color.

14. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a brightly colored material.

15. The device in accordance with claim 14 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a red color.

16. The device in accordance with claim 1 including a plurality of interchangeable nozzle plates having different outer planar exposed surfaces.

17. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein an external seal member is associated with the nozzle plate.

18. The device in accordance with claim 1 including an end cap adapted for connection to the second end of the connector coupling.

19. The device in accordance with claim 18 wherein the end cap and the dispenser are in substantially axial alignment.

20. The device in accordance with claim 18 wherein the end cap defines an external thread.

21. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the switch mechanism includes a plunger actuator and an actuator button that carries a safety slide button.

22. The device in accordance with claim 21 wherein the switch mechanism further includes a guide pin and a coil compression spring.

23. The device in accordance with claim 21 wherein the safety slide button includes a circular cap portion with a retainer leg formed thereon.

24. The device in accordance with claim 23 wherein the cap portion of the safety slide button is formed with concentric rings on its surface.

25. The device in accordance with claim 23 wherein the actuator button and the cap portion of the safety slide button have mutually cooperable channels.

26. A tactical defense device, comprising:  
a dispenser having a tubular body having a first end defining a forward portion and an opposite second end, the dispenser adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge;  
a nozzle plate having a discharge orifice supported within the forward position;  
a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to the second end of the dispenser and an opposite second end, the connector coupling housing a switch mechanism; and  
a switch mechanism having a plunger actuator, a guide pin, a coil compression spring, and an actuator button carrying a safety slide button.

27. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the forward portion of the dispenser is enlarged.

28. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the first and second ends of the dispenser define annular threads.

29. The device in accordance with claim 26 including an annular retainer adapted for connection to the first end of the dispenser.

30. The device in accordance with claim 29 wherein the annular retainer includes an interior thread.

31. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the dispenser includes a slidingly insertable sleeve for holding a pressurized spray cartridge.

32. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the dispenser has an annular cover sleeve formed thereon.

33. The device in accordance with claim 32 wherein the annular cover sleeve is formed of a material suitable to enhance gripping of the dispenser, such as foam.

34. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the discharge orifice of the nozzle plate is in axial alignment with a discharge nozzle of an inserted pressurized spray cartridge.

35. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein an outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a light-reflective material.

36. The device in accordance with claim 35 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a silver color.

37. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a non-reflective material.

38. The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a dark, buff color.

39. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a brightly colored material.

40. The device in accordance with claim 39 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a red color.

41. The device in accordance with claim 26 including a plurality of interchangeable nozzle plates having different outer planar exposed surfaces.

42. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein an external seal member is associated with the nozzle plate.

43. The device in accordance with claim 26 including an end cap adapted for connection to the second end of the connector coupling.

44. The device in accordance with claim 43 wherein the end cap and the dispenser are in substantially axial alignment.

45. The device in accordance with claim 43 wherein the end cap defines an external thread.

46. A dispenser device comprising, in combination,  
a dispenser including a tubular body having a first end and an opposite second end defining a head portion, the tubular body adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge having a discharge nozzle configured to be disposed adjacent the head portion;

a nozzle plate supported within the head portion and having a discharge orifice in axial alignment with the discharge nozzle and adapted for cooperation with the discharge nozzle to effect discharge from the cartridge when disposed in predetermined relation to the discharge orifice;

a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to an end cap, and a second end adapted for connection to the first end of the dispenser, the end cap and dispenser body being in substantially axial alignment;

the connector coupling having a switch mechanism supported therein including a switch actuator mutually cooperable with the spray cartridge; and

the connector coupling adapted to be actuated by a user's thumb or finger while grasping the connector coupling in the user's hand so as to effect discharge from the cartridge.

47. The device in accordance with claim 21 wherein the safety slide button is moved axially from a safety position to an armed position and is then depressed downwardly to activate the spray cartridge.

48. The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the safety slide button is moved axially from a safety position to an armed position and is then depressed downwardly to activate the spray cartridge.

49. The device in accordance with claim 24 wherein the concentric rings are raised and have a step-like contour to facilitate a positive gripping action by a user.